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Extracts from an Address delivered before the Agricultural Society of Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania. By R. H. ROSE, Esq.

"The knowledge of agriculture is generally supposed to be simple, and easily to be acquired; and this belief has prevented many from paying that attention to it which is necessary, in order to be well informed in its details. But, besides persevering industry, and unremitting care, which are indispensably necessary, science is as important here as in every thing else; and no one need hope to become a skilful farmer, without a widely extended knowledge of things connected with his art. Placed as we are, in a new country, of much natural fertility, we are not called upon to renovate exhausted, or worn out lands; but all the skill requisite for the farmer who tills those, is equally important to us, in order to prevent the exhaustion of that fertility with which our fields are given to us. Skilful culture can make a poor farm rich; and it must, therefore, be unpardonable neglect to suffer a rich farm to become poor.

"A farmer should be well informed of the nature of soils, and of the various plants adapted to them, in order that he may cultivate such as are best calculated for his particular fields, and not waste his labor on those which flourish most in other situations.

"Geologists suppose our earth to have been masses of rock of various kinds, but principally silicious, aluminous, calcareous, and magnesian; from the gradual attrition, decay and mixture of which, together with an addition of vegetable and animal matter, is formed the soil; and this is called sandy, clayey, calcareous, or magnesian, according as the particular primitive material preponderates in its formation. Sand, clay, and limestone, or calcareous earth, each operates as a manure upon the others, when they exist in too great proportion; in consequence of producing, by their intermixture, the requisite state of cohesion, not too loose nor too rigid for the roots of plants; and it is observed by that celebrated agricultural chemist, Sir Humphrey Davy, that no soil is fertile which contains as much as nineteen parts out of twenty of any of the constituent earths which have been mentioned. Different vegetables flourish best in different modifications of these component parts, as they prefer moist or dry situations; but the most valuable soil for general purposes, is that in which they are mixed in such proportions, as, while moisture is suffered to pass freely, and roots easily pervade it, there is sufficient tenacity to give support to the plants, and enable them to spread their leaves and branches to the light and air, and to resist the impulse of the winds.

"Plants resemble animals in many parts of their system. The roots and leaves serve the purposes of a mouth and lungs; and in many other instances of their economy, they are not unlike the organization of the nobler parts of creation. They are operated on by food and stimuli much in the same way; and, in like manner, are they, in decomposition, an appropriate food for the vegetable system. Some plants, as the *dionœa muscipula*, the various species of the mimosa, &c. evince an inherent power of motion, and shrink at the slightest touch. The disposition of every tree to throw out its branches towards open places, in order to obtain light and air, and to send off its roots in the most suitable directions in search of food, displays an apparent consciousness of situation.—A tree growing in a position where it is surrounded by others, and defended from the winds, disperses its roots in quest of nutriment near the surface where it is most abundant, and wastes none of its strength in low limbs, but springs upwards, tall and thin. But the same kind of tree, in a situation exposed to the storm, takes firm and deep root in the ground, and, as if conscious of the power of a lever, spreads its branches below, while it contents itself with a moderate height, that the gale may the more readily pass over it.

"It has been much contested, whether earth is of any use to plants, except to afford them a support; water being supposed their chief, and, by some, their only food: but all plants, in some degree, partake of the soil in which they grow; and their ashes, by analysis, are found to contain, besides potash, the carbonates of lime and magnesia, silica, alumina, and certain metalic oxides. It is therefore most probable, that, instead of being the sole food of the plant, as contended by some; or, according to others, the mere solvent of the food, and the means by which the plant is enabled to absorb it, water acts in both ways, as a direct nutriment in itself, and as the means by which the plant is enabled to obtain other food, necessary for its health and vigor. The leaves, as well as the roots, are furnished with absorbent vessels; and some vegetables draw the greater part of their nourishment, by means of their leaves, from the air, which, like the soil they stand in, is a compound, some parts of which are more favorable to vegetation than others.

"The soil of the beech and maple lands, which compose the greater part of Susquehanna county, is a sandy loam, about eighteen inches in depth, resting on a compact bed of argillaceous earth, and minute sand; which, from its retentive nature, is extremely well calculated to prevent the escape of moisture, and to preserve the fertilising quality of the manures which may be intermingled with the superincumbent soil.

"It must be confessed, that agriculture appears to be, in general, but little understood in our county; and the neglect with which fields and farms are treated, is calculated to give to strangers an unfavorable opinion of the soil.—In many places we see fields but lately cleared of their woods, neglected and suffered to be overgrown with bushes and briers; or crop after crop is taken from the same field, the seed having been strewn upon the stubble of the preceding harvest, and merely harrowed in; no plough used; and, indeed, sometimes no harrow, the seed and the harvest being trusted to the mercy of heaven. The soil must naturally be very prolific, or who could expect to see such a seed time followed by any harvest.

"There is also a want of attention to the fences, as well as of care and of neatness about the farms, for which we can seek an excuse only in the recollection of the very short space of time which has elapsed since every farm, as well as the seat of justice, at which we are now assembled, was covered with an apparently interminable forest. And when we see the improvements which have sprung up with such rapidity, we may reasonably hope, that a few years more will change the inattention which we are now disposed to censure, into economy and care. This Society may do much good; and it is a pleasure to see a disposition to become members of it generally pervade the county. It is to be hoped that reformation will begin among its members. There is no slight connexion between industry and good morals; and we might become more attentive to the appearance of our farms, if we supposed, as is sometimes the case, their condition was indicative of good or ill qualities, as citizens and neighbors, of their owners.

"A farmer should attend to the neatness and convenience of his house, as on that much of the health and comfort of his family depends. The Dutch have a proverb, that paint costs nothing. It preserves and beautifies his buildings; and neatness commenced in one thing, is generally extended to others. But he should remember that his farm is his great object, and take care that no subordinate parts exceed their due proportion of expense. Neatness costs nothing. It is frequently the case that a farmer builds a larger house than he can complete, and it remains afterwards unpainted and unglazed, a mark of his want of skill in proportioning his expenditures.

"No one sees a good garden attached to a farm house, without a favorable opinion of the owner's industry. Much of the attention required in it may be done by children, and much of the comfort and economy of a family depends upon an ample supply of culinary vegetables.

"Great care should be taken in the proper position of the barn, both for the general convenience of the farm, by which much labor may be saved, and for the preservation of the manure made at it, on which much of the farmer's wealth is to depend. The great secret of good farming is, to enlarge the dung heap. Wherever manure can be made in abundance, the farmer has his crops at his command. But when crops are raised, there is no safety for them without good fences. A farmer will be likely to experience more vexation from bad fences, than from any other cause. His own, and his neighbor's cattle are perpetually annoying him; and the fairest hopes of his fields are at the mercy of all the unruly animals on his farm or in the vicinity.

"An orchard is an object of much importance. The best fruits should be planted. The ground they occupy, is the same as that occupied by the worst.

"The indiscriminate destruction of timber,

which we see in this county, is deserving of much reprehension. If, in clearing lands, groves of timber were left interwoven among the fields, besides the beauty of a farm cleared in this manner, they would be useful as a shelter for cattle in the heats of the summer, and as a reservation of fuel, against the time when that article shall become scarce, as it has done in all the long settled counties, where timbered lands are considered much more valuable than the cleared. Many think they can never exhaust the abundance which is around them; but if they will compare what is already cleared off, with the shortness of time which this county has been populated, they will have reason to change this opinion. It has been calculated, that from ten to fifteen acres are necessary for the permanent supply of each fire place, where wood is used much less profusely than with us; and this, independent of all the other farm uses to which it is applied. A farmer should examine his ground well before he cuts a tree, and leave those parts where it will be most useful or ornamental. He should also be careful to leave the best kinds of timber, especially the sugar maple, the produce of which is not only useful in his family, but may be generally sold at twice the expense of procuring it.*—This tree is one of the most beautiful of our forest; and, consequently, if planted along lanes, or division fences, would be ornamental as well as useful.

"No expense should be spared in procuring the most suitable implements of agriculture.—Every one knows the labor which must be expended, and the time lost, if his implements are out of order; and should recollect the adage that "time is money;" an adage, which, I believe, you will all say, is but little attended to among us. A place should be provided to receive all the farming tools, that no time may be spent in searching round the farm for them, when wanted; and whenever an instrument is done with, it should be deposited in its proper place.

"A farmer should not attempt to sow or plant more ground than he can accomplish in suitable season, and attend to in a proper manner. It is better to cultivate one acre well, than several ill. He will get both more reputation and more produce from it.

"The best seeds should always be sown.—Much has been said, and written, about the necessity of changing seeds, and procuring new ones from distant places; but doubts may be entertained of the propriety of this practice, especially if a farmer endeavors to raise the best seeds, and if a rotation of crops be attended to. The utility of a rotation of crops appears to be pointed out by nature, in the changes of plants and timber which she is perpetually exhibiting to our eyes. There is every reason to believe, that at a former period this county produced timber different from the kinds which are now prevalent. Places covered with beech, sugar maple, and hemlock, have formerly been clothed with white pine and oak, of which, in some spots, are still to be seen the gigantic remains. And where beech and sugar maple timber have been lately burned off, and the land neglected, other kinds, particularly cherry and birch, in astonishing abundance grow in their places. These are proofs of the changes which nature is constantly effecting.—This disposition to change their ground, has been supposed to be evinced by some plants which are propagated by their roots, as potatoes, which, by extending themselves beneath the surface, form new beds as they spread; and the strawberry effects the same change by its runners. Nature has provided many plants with the power of shifting the position of their progeny, by downy seeds, which are scattered by the winds; others again are furnished with barbs, by which they are attached to passing animals, and carried abroad. Writers on agriculture say, that, by continuing the culture of a particular plant for a long time in one place, the ground, as they term it, becomes sick of it and refuses to bear it any longer; that is, perhaps, the peculiar quality of the soil, which gave it a strong propensity to a particular vegetation, becomes exhausted, and it is rendered necessary to introduce new plants. But, although this change of plants be proper, it does not follow that a change of seeds is equally so; and I think that farmer acts upon the wisest system, who endeavors to make his own grounds supply him with the best seeds. By doing so, he is more certain of the kind and quality of those which he sows, than when he trusts to those procured from a distance. By crossing different plants of the same genus, it is probable that many useful varieties may be produced.

"The farmers among us who have ploughed their lands, (and foreigners will hear with astonishment of farmers who do not plough,) have found in their crops proofs of the advantage of their culture, but even they do not plough deep enough. The plough cannot be forced to the bottom of our soil—the subsoil is beneath its reach. The quality of the crop must depend, in a great measure, on the depth of ploughing, and the mellowness given to the soil by culture, which enables the roots of plants to spread themselves through it, and obtain more abundant nourishment. Deep ploughing permits all excess of rain to drain from the surface, to a depth where it is retained for the uses of the plants, as their roots may require it: and hence, in such situations, plants are less liable to suffer from the extremes of rain or drought. It cannot be expected that wheat or corn will grow well in ground matted with the roots of grass or weeds. In this particular new land has an advantage over old. It is received pure from the hand of nature; and if weeds are afterwards seen in it, they are the consequence of neglect. If the proper kinds of grass seeds be sowed, in suitable quantity, they will effectually prevent the growth of weeds.

"The grass seeds that are used here, are neither, in general, of the right kinds, nor are they sown in sufficient quantity. Both meadow and pasture should be formed by a mixture of grasses growing at different periods, so that they might follow each other in succession. White clover, among the best pasture grasses, is a native of our soil, and grows spontaneously. Sir John Sinclair, one of the most scientific farmers of the age, recommends land to be laid down with ten pounds of red clover; ten pounds of white clover, ten pounds of trefoil, and three pecks of rye grass seeds. He considers the grass better when sown thick; and observes, that if it be sown too thick, it will die off to a proper standard.—Some farmers in England sow upwards of three bushels of grass seeds to the acre. Perhaps in our soil nothing would be found superior to a mixture of red clover and orchard grass, both for abundance of produce, and permanency of pasture.

"In England, where farming is carried to great perfection, and where the annual rent and taxes of a farm would purchase the fee simple of one of the same extent in Susquehanna county, farmers find grass their most profitable produce; and this, althongh the price of grain, compared with that of cattle, is fifty per cent. beyond what it is with us. Our soil is peculiarly well adapted for raising the artificial grasses; and the distance we are from the markets of Philadelphia and New York, offers strong inducements to the breeding and fattening of cattle. For this purpose, however, root crops are particularly necessary; and to raise these to perfection, manure should be liberally used. We have heard the story of a person removing his barn, rather than his dung heap;—and I am not sure that we could not find examples of this nature in Susquehanna county. In the use of dung, it has been sufficiently proven, that although short and rotten dung will give, of some things, the best crop for the first year, yet long dung is more lasting, and will produce a greater effect the second and third years. Arthur Young, to whom Great Britain is indebted for much of her agricultural knowledge, says, "that sixty-seven cart loads of fresh yard dung produced seven hundred forty two bushels of potatoes; while, at the same time, the same quantity of yard dung, after six months rotting, yielded but seven hundred and eight bushels.—But had the fresh dung been kept as long as the other, it would have taken twice or thrice as much to make the quantity used"—the dung by rotting settling into a smaller space. A ton of straw, it has been calculated, will, if judiciously managed, make four tons of dung, by which a third of the ground may be manured from which the straw was taken. Dung, during the putrefactive process, gives out gases, which are peculiarly useful to vegetation; and it is most beneficial when applied to the soil during that process. If, as it has been stated, fresh dung is injurious to tap roots, it must be from the excess of its stimulus to the plant. It is considered best not to overload the soil with manure, but to apply it to fallow or root crops only, and that at the rate of from ten to fifteen

* There are some objections against leaving solitary trees standing when woodland is cleared. Trees take root according to their exposure to be shaken by the wind, and their situation as regards soil, sun & air. A tree, growing in a forest, will become taller and its roots will be nearer the surface of the ground, other things equal, than if it grew in cleared land. When its companions are taken away it is very liable to be overturned by wind. We have known instances of very fine "*sugar orchards*," composed of trees, which were reserved when the rest of the original growth was cut away, turned up by the roots, in a few years; and they generally brought up with them a large quantity of the surface of the soil adhering to their roots. If the soil be stony, very compact, or the trees have always stood in a situation which exposed them to the wind the danger is less. Likewise, if nearly the whole growth is rock maple, it may be preserved, with less liability to the evil alluded to. See N. E. Farmer, vol. i. p. 329, vol. ii. p. 166. Likewise Mr. Rose has himself given reasons why a tree which grew in a forest should not be left alone to bear the fury of the winds. See second column of the preceding page, near the top.—*Editor N. E. Farmer.*

tons per acre. In countries that are very populous, the greatest care is necessary to save every article that will tend to fertilise the ground, in order to supply the demands made on it by the population. The Chinese are said to save even the clippings of their hair and nails for this purpose. When their rice fields are flooded, they procure the roe of fish which they put into them, and which vivifying, a part grows large enough to be eaten by the time the water is drawn off, and the remainder, by rotting on the ground, improves its fertility. Young says, that were he an inhabitant of a particular part of France, he would manure four acres annually with flies, which are there in astonishing abundance; and Darwin proposes to place the dung heap in a situation where it may be flooded with water, and become a moving mass of insect life, in that state to be conveyed to the field. In England, malt dust is not unfrequently used; and an opulent brewer has even manured his fields with dried yeast. Ground bones are also employed there in such quantities, as to exhaust their own supply, and call for aid from other countries; and not content with the remains of inferior animals, bits of lace, and fragments of coffins, sometimes mingled with the imported bones, indicate the search for the means of increasing the product of the farm, to have been extended to the cemetry and the field of battle. Among the various things used as manures are, lime, gypsum, chalk, marl, sea shells, common salt, sea and fresh water weeds, fish, horn shavings, woollen rags, ashes, peat, oil cake, soot, night soil; besides clover, buck wheat, and other green crops ploughed in.

"A difference of opinion exists, whether the beneficial quality of dung is lost by being washed by rain below the soil, or by evaporation through it. They who advocate the opinion of its sinking, will prefer putting the dung in shallow; while others will be in favor of covering it deep. Probably both opinions are in some degree, right; and that a part, in the form of gases, escapes into the air, while the more earthy parts, dissolved by the water, are washed deep into the ground.

"Potatoes are an excellent fallow crop; for independent of the attention required in their culture, while growing, it is necessary to turn over every particle of soil in searching for them, at their harvest. Other root crops, however, may be more profitable and their product much more abundant. Our soil is extremely well calculated for turnips, ruta baga and mangel wurtzel, all of which yield great crops. Pumpkins are usually raised by our farmers among their corn: but although useful that way, I am persuaded that there are few crops that will better pay the farmer's care than pumpkins raised by themselves. And it is useful for a farmer to have as great a variety of forage and provender, as he conveniently can. Without pumpkins and abundant root crops, he will feed his cattle to great disadvantage.

"The most approved breeds of animals should be procured, particularly those which are fattened with most ease, as they are kept with less expense than the lank and hungry kinds, and better repay care and attention to them. The long legged hogs costs more to fatten than the short legged. The long woolled and valuable breeds of sheep cost no more to keep than those of the worst description; and the cow which gives an abundance of milk, consumes little more of the farmer's produce, than one totally unfit for the dairy. The most desirable properties of live stock have been treated by writers on the subject, under the heads of size, form, early maturity, hardiness of constitution, lightness of offal, prolific quality a tendency to grow, and a disposition to fatten. It is generally conceded, that moderate sized cattle are to be preferred before the very large ones, as being more easily fatted, kept at less expense, and more marketable. Cattle should be chosen with short legs, their heads and bones small, their bodies long and round, and chests deep and capacious. By an early maturity, much of the expense of their food is saved; which is also the case with those breeds most disposed to fatten.

Every farmer should seek for the best kinds of all the articles which he intends to cultivate; and the county will be greatly indebted to him who shall introduce the best breed of any of the domestic animals, or whose example shall spread among his neighbors the culture of the most useful kinds of grain, grasses and roots.

Domestic Manufactures are intimately connected with the farm. I mean those manufactures properly called domestic—those which are made in the farmer's house and by the hands of his wife and daughters, whom he furnishes with wool and flax of his own produce, and whose industry, properly applied, while it shields them from the dangers of idleness, clothes the family with strong and warm apparel. Too much attention cannot be paid to this, and it remains for the society to encourage female skill and industry, by premiums for the best articles of household manufactures, which shall be exhibited at our next meeting. Of the advantage of these manufactures there cannot be a doubt. They tend to make the farmer independent, by reducing his expenses, and furnishing him from his farm and household with articles of indispensable necessity; and the industry requisite in making them, is useful to the good conduct and morals of his family. But such manufactures are very different in their effect, from those which are accomplished by crowds of men, women, and children, grouped together in buildings which resemble hospitals or barracks, and which must be forced and supported by extravagant bounties, in the shape of duties on importations. The large manufacturing districts in Europe are noted as the abodes of ignorance, want, and disease; and this must be the case wherever thousands depend for their daily bread upon the inclination of one person, or on the uncertain demand for the manufactured article. A diminution of the price of this, may render it impossible for the fabricators of it to procure the means of subsistence; while the situation of the farmer is so fortunate, that no diminution of the value of the products of his farm, can lessen the facility with which he may find the means of support. To him the fluctuations of trade and commerce are comparatively of little importance. The natural and healthy growth of manufactures in the United States, is a desirable circumstance. But great bounties would go to enrich the few owners of the establishments, and be unfelt by the many laborers employed in the works. It was an observation, and a very correct one, of a former President of the United States, that "Agriculture, Manufactures, Commerce and Navigation, the four pillars of our prosperity, are most thriving when left to individual enterprise." But if, instead of being left to individual enterprise, large, bounties are given to encourage the manufacturer, why should not the farmer expect the government to pay him also bounties for his produce, which, when exported, tends to enrich the nation? But the genius of our government is opposed to this system of favoring one class of citizens at the expense of the others; and we had better leave the tangled web of European policy untouched. The conversion of the robust farmer into the pallid manufacturer, certainly does not appear to be a desirable metamorphose; and the policy of adding to the high duties already laid on imported articles, by which the inducement to smuggling would be increased, and the public revenue probably so diminished, as to lead to the adoption of a direct tax on our farms, is, at least, of a very questionable nature. The certain result of the measure must be, a diminution of commerce, and a serious injury to the prosperity of the navy, which the events of the last war have convinced us, is the cheapest, and most efficient national defence. Is there one so lukewarm as to look with indifference on any source of his country's prosperity and glory! What shall we then think of any measure, which might jeopardize that arm, to which, participating in our country's weal, we look as to the sure guardian of her fame, and the principal foundation of her power!

"If the wealth of a state consists in the surplus of its products, what can be more wise than to promote, by all means, a diffusion of agricultural information among our citizens; and the formation of societies, whose particular objects are the improvement of the soil, and the way to make two blades of grass grow where but one sprung before; or two bushels of wheat where but one could, by the former culture, have been produced! Money appropriated by a government for these purposes, is like a trifling amount of seed scattered on the land, from which an abundant harvest is to be gathered. Frederick of Prussia, who deserves to be not less celebrated as a political economist, than as a successful commander, expended upwards of a million of dollars annually in the agricultural improvement of his kingdom, (one not naturally favored by Ceres) and by this judicious expenditure, he enriched his subjects and filled his treasury to overflowing. Indeed, whatever money may be expended in this way, must be returned to the public coffers infinitely multiplied; and the legislator who acts on different principles, neglects his country's prosperity, and may well be compared to the wicked and slothful servant, who, instead of endeavoring to increase the talent entrusted to his care, concealed it in the ground."

American Salt.—Mr. Van Rensselaer, in his Essay on Salt, states that "In the United States, 1,200,000 bushels are produced annually, and this is a small quantity compared with that which might be had. Yet we import annually upwards of four millions, leaving a balance of more than $2,800,000 against us. In Illinois, Missouri, Arkansas, Ohio, Virginia, New-York, and Pennsylvania, salt can be produced in the greatest abundance."—*Boston Gazette.*

FOR THE NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

REMARKS ON SEVERAL SUBJECTS RELATING TO RURAL ECONOMY.

[*Continued from page* 186.]

ON BARN-YARD MANURE.

4. You know Mr. Editor, there are nostrums, besides the metalic points, which are recommended as saving remedies for diseases, as different in their nature, as it is possible the human system can be visited with. Yet the *settings forth* of these Empyrics are credited, their preparations purchased, and their directions followed by multitudes, who are wise and careful in many respects—by persons too, who will, not without great trembling, trust themselves to the directions of a physician who, in living among them has recommended himself by his moral and wise conduct. The prescriptions of a wise and discriminating physician are refused, and those patent pills and lotions are bought, taken and recommended as the means of health and comfort; though it is doubtful whether a considerate and well instructed person can be found, who does not suppose the aggregate evil derived from them is manifold greater than the good. But the whole catalogue of the diseases, which the most adventurous of those men have named as cured or helped by their catholicons, will not equal the diversified and contradictory ends, which are expected to be obtained from barn-yard manure; let the land be hill or plain; let the soil be wet or dry; let its constituent parts be clay, sand, gravel or silex; let the crop be corn, beans, wheat or flax; let what will be the changes desired, it matters not; the same nostrum patented, not by Act of Congress but by the law of universal custom, is resorted to, and the same agent is considered as altogether sufficient and operative. The same happy effects are expected, and generally believed to be derived in all cases, however different in their nature. And, if at any time the application fails, the failure is imputed to the moon, or the planetary powers. The disappointed cultivator resolves, instead of changing his application, to pay greater regard in future to the signs of the times. But you, Sir, will not believe the reason why manure does *not take*, is to be found in the silver beams of that lovely light, whose beautiful changes are well calculated to please and delight, but which was never set in the heavens to hurt or destroy. The truth is that barn-yard manure, though of great and extensive use is not good for all soils, nor for all crops; nor in many crops, where it does some good, is it by any means the best and cheapest application that can be made. Applications should be made according to the alterations and changes to be produced. Cold soils want to be warmed, hot soils want to be cooled, hard soils want to be mellowed, open soils to be stiffened—some want heat, some moisture, some, more of both than are afforded by the common gifts of nature. And in all soils regard is to be had to the changes and alterations, which it is wished to produce, and to the wants and habits of the crop to be cultivated. Now can all this be done by one agent? certainly it cannot. But it can he done by a proper application of agents placed within our power, if used in a proper way. To discover these agents and apply them, necessarily requires knowledge and discrimination. A farm then gives employment to the head as well as to the hands; and he only will be found ultimately to succeed well in the business, who gives his attention to understand the nature of things. The first object to be gained, however, is to convince our agriculturists that the produce of the barn-yard is not, as has already been observed, the only thing, which can make the earth more productive. And that in a very large number of cases it is not the best material which can be applied. And this is a point of a more difficult acquisition than would at first be supposed; or, at least, it is not easy to produce such a kind of conviction as will be followed by a change of practice.

It is not the object of these remarks to descend into particulars relative to the improvement of land. As a general observation the following will hold true. For land very dry, or very wet, pure barn-yard manure is not the best application, which can be made. Common dry, subsoil, and silicious [sandy] earth are better for wet lands.* Meadow earth, and clay are better for sandy and dry land, especially if grass is the crop raised. And I had rather, in many instances that earth should be supplied than an equal quantity of the best manure from the barn-yard. The effect, the first year, in most instances might not be so great; but it would be more lasting, and in all greater. Land between the extremes of wet and dry should be the repository to which the yard must send its treasures. But it must not, if the greatest good is wished to be accomplished, be used alone on grass land. It should be mixed with loam, or covered over after it is spread. The heap should be spread after the grass has started, so that it will soon be shaded. If spread earlier it will often become dry, and lose by evaporation most of its fertilizing qualities. And it sometimes forms a crust, through which the grass cannot penetrate. Compost, brought to a very mellow state is the best for grass. And I am very much of the opinion that clear yard manure should never be used, except when it can be immediately and entirely covered.

FURTHER HINTS ON THE MANAGEMENT OF MANURE.

5. I admire such men as Col. Pickering, who, when they discover any thing useful, have benevolence, and also *courage* enough to disclose it to the world. Although they may not be the first and only persons, who have thought of such things, they deserve all the honor due to the original discoverers. But such is not the boldness, and, therefore not the usefulness of all. Some years before Col. Pickering's publications on the subject of agriculture came to my hand, or indeed before he had made any on that subject, I had discovered that the Sun, the Leviathan, that drinketh the rivers, also took away much of the enriching quality of manure used in my garden.—That it was much better to cover green manure in the garden than to suffer it to grow old in the heap; and that crops that covered the ground the greater part of the year impoverish the earth much less than those which were of short continuance.—Yet, such was my deference to the opinions of those, whose business was in the field, and where wealth and substance was drawn therefrom, supposing they must know the better way, I hardly ventured to suggest that an alteration from the common practice was necessary. Neither do I believe, I should have thought of giving the public any intimations on the subject.—Yet it is true a change was necessary as that gentleman has told us, and has prevailed on many to their own profit to make; and such, certainly, are the advantages resulting from it, that should any man, who cultivates land, pay yearly to this great benefactor a sum equal to his usual town taxes, they, and not he would be the persons obliged.

* This, however, depends in some measure on the *cause of too much moisture*. A soil may superabound in sand, and still be too wet for cultivation. "Sandy soils," says Sir John Sinclair, "on a retentive bottom, requires draining." Some swamps, altogether too wet for cultivation, are composed of sand, with perhaps, a slight cover of surface mould. In such case adding sand to sand would produce but little advantage, as respects the superfluous moisture, unless the addition was in such quantity as to elevate the plane of the surface a considerable height above the "retentive bottom" which caused the mischief. And even then the soil will not be valuable in consequence of the predominance of sand. We have known a sharp sand applied to a sandy swamp, to remedy its wetness till a soil was manufactured sufficiently dry but almost entirely barren. If, however, the *cause* of too much wetness is found in the *absorbent quality* of the soil which induces it to take in water freely, and retain it in too great quantity for the uses of vegetation, sand is a proper application.—*Editor N. E. Farmer.*

To the Editor of the New England Farmer,

DEAR SIR,—I am induced to hand you the enclosed extract for publication, from an impression that some of the remarks are so *apposite* to the present juncture, that they ought to be in possession of the public. And this motive I trust, will secure a pardon from my friend for the liberty thus taken.—It may be thought, Sir, that the time has arrived for the FARMERS and PLANTERS of the Union, to *begin* to ask the Government for a share of protection so strenuously demanded by a portion of their fellow citizens engaged in other pursuits.

Should your publication of the letter, meet the eye of the estimable gentleman at the head of the Agricultural Committee of the House of Representatives in Congress, he will recognize the writer as one of the most systematic and efficient farmers, upon a very extensive scale, in the United States.

Yours truly,

S. W. POMEROY.

Brighton, Jan. 8, 1824.

"*Genesee, Livingston Co., N. Y.* 8*th Dec.* 1823.

"DEAR SIR,—I received a few days since, a "New England Farmer." Judging from one number, I should think it a well selected and judicious paper.

"I doubt whether I should agree with the Editor in recommending the cultivation of roots for cattle. You know my axiom is that the process of farming (I wish I had a better word at command) must be regulated by the price of produce. The same paper which recommends the culture of mangel wurtzel, quotes the price of the best pieces of beef at eight cents: reducing the average probably to four cents. I am deceived if it is possible to feed cattle with roots and sell the beef at four or five cents, without a loss:—if so, I believe *Say* would pronounce the root culture an unproductive operation. I am not insensible to the fascinating appearance of any section of our country, cultivated nearly in the style of horticulture; but its counterpart I am afraid ever must be pauperism in most of its painful forms. Farmers pursue their interest—not always—but more generally than you

gentlemen farmers imagine. The nett income of our farmers is miserably small—they cannot afford ornamental husbandry. Labor, says Washington in his letters to Young, is every thing with us, and land nothing. I do not say but you can feed your cows near Boston, cheaper on roots than with hay: I doubt it however:—But I can raise cattle in Ohio and sell them at such prices as will ruin a root-feeder, twenty miles distant from Boston.

"Our manufacturers are earning double the amount of farmers of equal capital. Government is paying them a bounty of 30 per cent. on their products—while the good-natured farmer jogs on, quite contented with an occasional treat of splendid declamation in praise of rural life.

"I am doubtful as to the expediency of small premiums on cattle; I think the raising of these animals may be left to self interest. Suppose you take a hint from Napoleon, and offer very liberal rewards for great improvements in agricultural implements. The cast-iron ploughs even now cause a saving to the U. S. of at least $60,000 a year—(here is a million saved for other objects.) Our Blacksmiths have lost about one third of their customers' work which was expended in laying and sharpening plough irons, &c.—We have a threshing mill in this village now in use, which operates perfectly well and saves one half the expense of manual threshing. It may be transported in a wagon—costs about $60.—We wonder why the Romans did not think of stirrups; and it is a little wonderful that the cast iron plough in its present form has not before been introduced. There ought to be national premiums for great objects that would excite attention through the U. S.—$10,000 for a flax dressing machine, if it brought one to light, would save half a million a year. Agricultural labor is not up to the lights of the age—while mechanical labor since Arkwright began to spin cotton, has been increased many hundred fold. There are many processes in farming which invite the aid of mechanical inventions; for instance mowing, threshing, cradling, flax-dressing, &c. Mr. Whitney of New-Haven, made a present to the cotton growing sections of the southern States of a machine, equal in value to the yearly labor of one fourth of the black population. I mention it to show what remains to be done, to abridge the rural labor of the northern and middle States.

"I am, &c.

"JAS. WADSWORTH.

"*Samuel W. Pomeroy, Esq.*"

From the Old Colony Memorial.

AGRICULTURAL STATEMENT.

To the Trustees of the Plymouth County Agricultural Society.

Gentlemen,—Having several acres of boggy *Fresh Meadow*, I have reduced about *nine acres* of it into good *English Meadow*. Previous to my commencing any operations on it, it was very ordinary fresh meadow, producing on an average about six or seven hundred of natural fresh hay, of very inferior quality, on an acre, mixed with meadow briers, mountrial, and cranberry vines, near the shores, and on the margin of the streams, bushes of various kinds: all the hay attained from it would scarce pay the labor of getting it, and was of more value to put into the barn-yard to make compost-manure, than for fodder.

I began my improvements by clearing out the natural stream, that the water might not overflow, and kill out, or injure the English grass; next laid out the meadow into lands, or beds, two rods wide, from the upland to the brook, digging a ditch three feet wide between the beds. Those beds which were not too miry, I ploughed with one yoke of light cattle, turning the furrows into the middle of the bed, and putting the swamp-mud, &c. taken out of the ditches, into the middle of the beds, to crown them like a turnpike, that the water should not stand on them. I then chopped the whole fine, with sharp hoes, and dug up the whole surface of those beds, which could not be ploughed, with said hoes, and planted the beds principally with potatoes, believing, and afterwards finding it to be necessary to till the ground until I had subdued and killed out the natural grass, &c. The second year I ploughed and dug as before, and planted some of the beds with corn, and some with potatoes; and in some instances I have put a small quantity of barn-yard manure, into the hills. The third year I laid down the beds, by sowing oats, and grass seed, generally a mixture of herdsgrass, red-clover and red-top; the oats have generally been very stout, as also the grass which succeeded; and weighing the hay that grew on several of the best beds, the last summer, (being the first time of mowing,) I found them to exceed *Four Tons* to an acre; I did not weigh them with that accuracy, nor procure the needful evidence, not intending to claim a premium for hay.

I began my operation, on an acre, which lies a considerable distance from the main body, about eight years ago, (as a matter of experiment.) The ditching and digging up of the same cost twelve cents per rod the potatoes on the same, the first year, more than paid all expense, of ditching and digging the same, without any manure.

The second year, I planted thirty three rods of said acre, with corn, and had twelve bushels of good corn, besides small corn, and on the rest of said acre, had 4 hundred and forty six pumpkins, and good potatoes.

Third year, sowed it with oats and grass-seeds.

Fourth year, had a large crop of clover.

Fifth year, 1822, red-top and herdsgrass, the whole of which was carefully weighed, and attested to, by an uninterested neighbor, and was three tons and forty four pounds.

Sixth year, 1823, after the hay was well made and ready to put into the barn, I caused to be weighed a number of cocks of hay, which were judged to be an average of the whole, by which it appeared there was on said acre, more than four tons of good hay, principally herdsgrass.

In the winter season, between 1821 and 1822, I carted on considerable gravel. and spread it on some of the beds, and am convinced, it had no beneficial effect; I apprehend that the soft mud, at the bottom of the wide ditches, being taken out and spread on the beds, would be a manure far preferable to sand or gravel.

My object in stating particularly, the produce of the first acre, which I cultivated, as a matter of experiment, is to satisfy other farmers, as it has done myself, that English grasses, especially herdsgrass, will produce a greater crop, as well as endure longer, when cultivated on boggy fresh meadow, than an hard upland; and by the mode of improvement above described. Our most unproductive and waste bogs and swamps, may be made, with very little expense, the most productive and valuable mowing lands we have.

Take the whole nine acres, the two first crops, viz. the potatoes and corn have paid all expense of reducing the *Fresh* to good *English Meadow*.

JOTHAM JACOB.

Hingham, Nov. 17, 1823.

From the New-York Evening Post.

BEES.

A premium was given at our last Agricultural Fair to Mr. Joseph Caywood, of New-Cornwall, Orange county, for some handsome specimens of Honey, which he exhibited, and on the 3d ult. we published a letter from him to the Agricultural Society, in which he gives several interesting particulars as to the improved method of management which he had adopted in relation to his bees, and in particular states that "for the last seven years, I have not intentionally destroyed a single bee." We were desirous at the time, to ascertain how he had contrived to obtain the honey and avoid the usual practice of killing the insects; but this information he declined giving. We now perceive by the Minerva of this morning, that the following easy method of taking the honey without destroying the bees, is generally practiced in France:—In the dusk of the evening when the bees are quietly lodged, approach the hive, and turn it gently over. Having steadily placed it in a small pit, previously dug to receive it, with its bottom upwards, cover it with a clean new hive, which has been properly prepared, with a few sticks across the inside of it, and rubbed with aromatic herbs: then having carefully adjusted the mouth of each hive to the other, so that no aperture remain between them take a small stick, and beat gently round the sides of the lower hive for about ten minutes, in which time the bees will leave their cells in the old hive, ascend and adhere to the new one. Then gently lift the upper hive, with all its little tenants and place it on the stand from which the other was taken. This should be done some time in the week preceding Midsummer-day, that the bees may have time, before the summer flowers are faded, to lay in a new stock of honey, which they will not fail to do for their subsistence through the winter.

From the Massachusetts Yeoman.

COAL.

Experiments have been made to ascertain the qualities of the Worcester Coal compared with the Lehigh and Rhode-Island coal; from which it has been ascertained, very satisfactorily, that ours has the superiority over both. A gentleman has handed us memoranda of the experiments made with a peck of each sort, measured with accuracy.—From these it appears that the Worcester coal was wholly ignited in a less time than either of the others, continued burning the longest, produced the greatest degree of heat, and had the least residuum in bulk. The weight, residuum, and time of burning, of the different specimens, were as follows:

	Weight.	*Resid.*	*Time.*
	lb. oz.	lb. oz.	h. m.
Lehigh,	18 0	8 14	4 25
R. Island,	18 8	10 06	3 36
Worcester,	22 0	13 00	5 00

It will be noticed that the *weight* of the Worcester Coal, and of its residuum, is the greatest —the measure being the same. This is owing, we suppose, to the iron contained in it.

There can now be little doubt that this Coal may to a great extent supply the place of other fuel. The Lehigh Coal is used at Philadelphia for nearly all the common purposes of fuel, except cooking, and ours is superior to that. We make no pretensions to geological knowledge; but those who do, say that the quantity of our Coal is inexhaustible and widely extended. The pit from which the specimens have been taken, is in the northeast part of the town, not far from Long Pond and has been open many years for the purpose of obtaining *black lead* to be used as a paint.—The Coal may probably be found and easily obtained in other parts of the town nearer the village.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 17, 1824.

ON THE CULTURE OF ROOTS FOR FEEDING CATTLE.

In this day's paper, page 196, we have given some remarks of Mr. Wadsworth, on this subject, in which that gentleman appears to be opposed to this practice. We have not the honor of a personal acquaintance with Mr. Wadsworth but are informed that he is a highly respectable cultivator, who is practically engaged in farming to a very large extent. His opinions are therefore, entitled to the highest respect, and we would by no means venture to oppose our authority to that of an eminent practical as well as scientific agriculturist. All we shall venture to urge in our own behalf is, that if we have gone astray we have not followed blind guides, but have very respectable companions to accompany us in our wanderings. We will produce some of the facts and reasonings which induced us to recommend the culture of roots for feeding cattle, and if insufficient will cheerfully acknowledge our error.

John Prince, Esq. a very respectable practical and scientific agriculturist in the vicinity of Boston, in a communication for the Massachusetts Agricultural Repository of June, 1822, says, "I really wish our farmers, generally, would be prevailed on to raise a greater quantity of vegetables for the use of their stock, than they have been in the habit of doing. Swedish turnips and mangel wurtzel (of the true sorts) are very easily raised, and every farmer has land suitable for them, when he might not have suitable soil for *carrots*, which I think give the richest milk, but are more expensive in cultivation. These roots, with care, even in pits out of doors, may be preserved till May and June, and yield, generally, double the quantity that the same land would yield in potatoes. Indeed with me I have usually had more than three times as many bushels per acre, and with, I think, no more labor. *Mangel wurtzel indeed will, by their thinnings, and trimmings, if done with care, pay all the labor of the crop, and give a fine evening food for cows, and are also excellent food for swine.*"

Mr. Prince, last season raised a premium crop of mangel wurtzel which consisted of 762 1-2 bushels on an acre and observes "in the same field, and directly along side, potatoes were cultivated, which fell considerably short of two hundred bushels per acre—the labor in gathering potatoes, is much more than the mangel wurtzel; and on the whole cultivation about equal. I think one bushel of potatoes about equal to one and an half of mangel wurtzel for feeding animals. After five or six years cultivation of the mangel wurtzel, I feel convinced it is the *most profitable root to cultivate for consumption on a farm*, and the past season mine kept perfectly well till June."*

Col. John Hare Powel, of Pennsylvania, who is one of the most eminent agriculturists in the United States, and who, we believe, for skill, science and experience, on a large scale in cultivating land has few if any superiors on this side of the Atlantic, in a communication to the Pennsylvania Agricultural Society, at their Meeting held on the 11th of January, 1823, observes, "My neat cattle prefer mangel wurtzel to any roots which I have offered them. I have found its effects in producing large secretions of *good* milk, very great. I selected in November, two heifers of the same breed, and very nearly of the same age, and in similar condition; they were tied in adjoining stalls, and have been fed regularly three times a day by the same man. One of them has had three pecks of mangel wurtzel, and four quarts of corn meal daily; the other, four and an half pecks of mangel wurtzel. The last which has had mangel wurtzel alone, is in the condition of good beef, the other is not more than what graziers call half fat."

Mr. Powel in another part of the same communication observes, "In citing the experiment on feeding with mangel wurtzel, I have no intention to convey an idea so preposterous as some of the "Fancies" have conceived, that mangel wurtzel, or any of the fashionable roots of the day, should interfere with the king of vegetables, Indian corn; or that where land is cheap and labor dear, a farmer is "wise to amuse himself," and feed his bullocks by plucking the luxuriant leaves of "the majestic Beta Altisima." I would merely *recommend its cultivation to a limited extent on all farms.* Its influence upon some cattle, milch cows, and more especially upon calves, during their first winter is very important. *I have attended with great accuracy, to the ills which are brought upon most young quadrupeds, when first weaned; and have invariably found them materially diminished by the use of succulent roots.*"

It appears by this same communication that Col. Powel raised 982 1-2 bushels of mangel wurtzel on 155 1-2 perches of land. Mr. David Little of Newbury, Mass. raised 970 bushels and one half of a bushel on one acre besides 2 bushels of carrots, and 109 cabbages. Six swine were mostly fed with the thinnings from the beginning of weeding until about the 1st of October.—There are trees on the said lot sufficient to produce 21 barrels of fruit—the entire expense of cultivating this acre of mangel wurtzel, including the cost of the manure and gathering the crop was $23, 96.†

Mr. Prince states that his mangel wurtzel weighed about 56 pounds a bushel. And 762 1-2 bushels, at that rate would give 42700 pounds to an acre. This is 19 tons, 16 cwt. and 1 qr.; more than five times the weight which could be expected from grass land of a good quality laid down to herds grass or timothy, the most productive kind of grass usually cultivated in New England. Sir Humphrey Davy in Elements of Agricultural Chemistry, informs that 1000 parts of the white beet contain 136 parts of soluble or nutritive matter. Then, if 1000 lbs. of the white beet afford 136 parts of nutritive matter 42700 (the weight of Mr. P's. crop,) would be 5807 pounds and a fraction over of nutritive matter. An acre of common red clover (*Trifolium Pratense,*) producing 49005 lbs. (which is a large crop) contains according to the chemical analysis, appended to the Elements of Agricultural Chemistry, 1914 lbs. of nutritive matter. Thus it appears that one acre of mangel wurtzel may produce more nutritive matter than three acres of stout clover. We might proceed further with our calculations of this sort and show the advantage of raising turnips and ruta baga for feeding cattle, as a second crop, according to the methods practiced by Mr. Buel, detailed in the New England Farmer, vol. ii. page 177. but have not at present room or leisure to pursue this subject.

Mr. Wadsworth asserts that he "can raise cattle in Ohio, and sell them at such prices as will ruin a root-feeder twenty miles from Boston." This, however, cannot well be done unless his cattle fatted in Ohio were driven for sale to Boston market. And when that gentleman takes into his calculation the loss of flesh which his cattle would undergo in so long a journey, the expense of their driving, and keeping on the road, we are inclined to think he will doubt his ability to ruin the root-feeder by the means he mentions. Mr. Wadsworth adverts to the low price of beef as an argument against root-feeding. But if cattle can be fatted *cheaper* on roots than on other feed the low price of beef presents an argument *in favor of root-culture.*

* See New England Farmer, vol. ii. page 171.
† See New Engtand Farmer, vol. i. page 178.

LIST OF AGRICULTURAL BOOKS, FOR SALE BY THE PRINCIPAL BOOKSELLERS IN BOSTON.

A Treatise on a New System of Agriculture, and feeding of Stock. By GEORGE ADAMS. Wells & Lilly, 98, Court Street.

A Year's Residence in the United States of America, in three parts. By WILLIAM COBBETT. Wells & Lilly.

Agricola, Letters of, on the Principles of Vegetation and Tillage, written for Nova Scotia. By JOHN YOUNG. Wells & Lilly; Cummings, Hillard, & Co. 1, Cornhill.

American Gardiner, exhibiting the time for every kind of work. By an OLD GARDINER. Richardson and Lord, 75, Cornhill.

American Gardiner, a Treatise on the Situation of Soil, Fencing and Laying out of Gardens, &c. By WILLIAM COBBETT. R. P. & C. Williams, Cornhill Square.

Arator, a Series of Agricultural Essays, Practical and Political. By JOHN TAYLOR. R. P. & C. Williams; Charles Ewer, 51, Cornhill.

Butler's Farmer's Manual, being a plain, practical Treatise on the Art of Husbandry, &c. Wells & Lilly. Samuel T. Armstrong. Charles Ewer.

Code of Agriculture. By SIR JOHN SINCLAIR. Wells & Lilly; S. T. Armstrong; Cummings, Hillard, & Co.

Compendium of Cattle Medicine, or Practical Observations on the Diseases of Cattle and other domestic Animals, except the Horse, with a series of Essays on the Structure, Economy, and Diseases of horned Cattle and Sheep. By JAMES WHITE, &c.—Richardson & Lord; Wells & Lilly.

Complete Grazier, or Farmers' and Cattle Breeders' Assistant, comprising instructions for buying breeding, rearing and fattening of Cattle; Directions for the choice of the best Breeds of live stock; the Treatment of their Diseases, and the Management of Cows and Ewes during the critical times of calving and yeaning. The general Economy of a Grass Farm —Irrigation or Watering of Meadows; Culture of the best natural and artificial Grasses, and Plants for fodder; various Methods of cutting, mixing and preparing food in severe Winters, and seasons of scarcity; the Economy and general Management of the Dairy including the making, curing and Preservation of Butter and Cheese, &c. &c. Together with an Introductory View of the different Breeds of neat Cattle, Sheep, Horses, Asses, Mules, Poultry, Rabbits, Bees Farm Accounts—and on the Improvement of British Wool. By a LINCOLNSHIRE GRAZIER, assisted by Communications from several Yorkshire, Leicester, and Norfolk Farmers. R. P. & C. Williams.

Culley's Observations on Live Stock, &c.—Wells & Lilly.

[*Remainder in our next.*]

The quantity of flannels manufactured within 46 miles of Boston, the last year has exceeded fifteen thousand pieces of 46 yards each; comprising the various quantities and colors usually imported—and the new establishments now going into operation, with the extension of those already in operation, will manufacture more than thirty thousand pieces the present year.—Besides these, there are others in Connecticut and New York, of considerable extent, and all of them will be sufficient within 18 months to supply the wants of the country, of this comfortable and health preserving commodity.—*Boston Centinel.*

Cheese.—In the township of Aurora, Portage county, Ohio, there has been made, during the past season, *one hundred and twenty-five thousand pounds of cheese.* This, for an area of five miles square, in a new country, in connexion with the ordinary productions of well cultivated farms, is an example of industry and economy worthy of imitation.

Caution.—A child was lately poisoned in Pennsylvania, by its mother's administering the herb called Bear's Foot, as an antidote for worms.

FOREIGN.

The English Parliament was to have met in January, but has since been prorogued to the 23d of February, which delay is considered to be an indication of continued peace.

The last London dates are to the 29th Nov. The papers affirm that the French Government had disclaimed any intention of assisting Spain in recovering her South American Colonies. It appears, however, that the King of Spain is dedicating a part of his *important* labors to the affairs of his Colonies, and the Russian Ambassador to Spain has intimated that his Master is willing to assist him in recovering his power in his "numerous kingdoms," including "his dominions in both Worlds."

The London papers also assert that Ferdinand and the French Prince have quarrelled, and were at deadly variance, and that the latter had left the kingdom in dudgeon. But probably this news was manufactured in London, for the use of the printers. There is every appearance that Spain will settle down quietly under her despotism, and their Monarch remain firmly seated on a throne supported by servility and superstition, the pillars of all absolute governments.

CONGRESSIONAL.

House.—Tuesday, Dec. 30. Mr. Rich offered a resolution, which was adopted, for taking measures to prevent hunting and trapping on lands to which the Indian title has not been extinguished, and exclude foreigners from the participation in the Indian trade.

Wednesday, Dec. 31. The bill from the Senate on the subject of discriminating duties was passed and sent to the Senate.

The President transmitted a Report of the Secretary of State relating to the condition and future prospects of the Greeks. This consisted of various papers, the titles of which alone have been published.

In Senate.—Friday, Jan. 2. Mr. Hayne presented a resolution of the Legislature of South Carolina, expressing their sympathy in the cause of the Greeks, &c. which was laid on the table. *The principal part of the business of the day was of a private or local nature.*

Monday, Jan. 5. Mr. Lloyd of Mass. submitted a resolution for opening a communication between Buzzard's Bay and Barnstable Bay, through the isthmus which separates those Bays, which after the completion the Chesapeake and Delaware and Raritan Canals, would extend an inland water communication from Albemarle Sound to Massachusetts Bay, passing in its progress through the territory or along the borders of ten of the Atlantic States.

Wednesday, Jan. 7. Mr. Barbour submitted a resolution, requesting the President to furnish information respecting the relations between Spain and the United States, &c.

The Senate, in Committee, resumed the consideration of the bill allowing the sum of $23,700 and interest thereon, to the grandson of the late Col. John Laurens, for services rendered by the deceased, during our revolutionary war, which was originally introduced by Mr. Barbour. This caused considerable debate, principally on the question of allowing interest on that sum. The bill was ordered to lie on the table.

House.—Friday, Jan. 2. A list of Balances due by individuals to the Government was presented, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Breck's resolution calling for specific information on the subject of the commerce between the United States, and the countries under the Turkish Government, &c. was adopted.

Mr. Webster's motion for sending an Agent to Greece, was postponed for the purpose of receiving further information on the subject, called for on the motion of Mr. Mallary of Vermont.

Jan. 5 and 6. The House was mostly occupied on Bills for the relief of individuals and Reports on petitions.

Wednesday, Jan. 7. A Report of the Secretary of War, respecting certain contracts for cannon, on motion of Mr. Cocke was referred to a Select Committee.

This day was chiefly occupied in a debate relative to a contested election from the 29th District of the State of New-York between Isaac Wilson and Parmenio Adams. The question was whether a printed ballot, having the stroke of a pen drawn through it, should or should not be admitted as a valid vote. The printed letters were distinctly legible, but a dash with a pen was drawn across the whole name: on this account the inspectors rejected the vote and it was not counted. The omission of this ballot, after the deduction on each side for erroneous returns, gave Mr. Adams a majority of one. The House decided that this vote ought to be omitted, and that Mr. Adams was entitled to a seat. Ayes 116, Nays 85.

MASSACHUSETTS LEGISLATURE.

Senate.—Thursday, Jan. 8. The different parts of the Governor's Message were referred to Committees according to the usage in such cases.

Friday, Jan. 9. The Hon. Messrs. Mills, Hull, and Hubbard were appointed a Committee to report on the expediency of repealing the acts of June 17, 1809, for establishing the Governor's Salary.

Saturday, Jan. 10. A bill respecting "Public Worship and Religious Freedom" was read, 300 copies ordered to be printed, and Tuesday next assigned for a second reading.

Monday, Jan. 12. A Joint Committee, consisting of the Hon. Messrs. Thaxter and Mills, Messrs. Miller, Warren, and Curtis was appointed to report on the expediency of amending the laws respecting paupers.

Resolutions from Tennessee respecting a Congressional Caucus, were committed to the Hon. Messrs. Leland, Winthrop, Freeman, S. Willard and Barker.

Resolutions from Illinois, respecting the appropriation of lands for purposes of education to Hon. Messrs. Gorham, Richardson, Swett, Johnson and Sprague.

Tuesday, Jan. 13. The Hon. Messrs. Adams and Lummus were joined to the Committee to consider the expediency of requiring officers making attachment of Real Estate on mesne process, to leave notice of such attachment with the Town Clerk of the town, in which the land so attached may be located.

House.—Thursday, Jan. 8. The Committee on Turnpikes was directed to Report on the expediency of encouraging the use of Broad Wheels. Other business of a private and local nature was transacted.

Friday, Jan. 9. The Speaker laid before the House a letter from Alden Bradford, Esq. accompanied with a volume of the Massachusetts State Papers, and a volume of the History of Massachusetts presented by that gentleman, to be placed among the public documents of the House. The Speaker was requested to present the thanks of the House for the donation.

The petition of J. H. Coffin and others, in behalf of the Massachusetts Medical Society, praying that means may be taken to prevent the sale of medicines except by persons licenced by the society, &c. with remonstrances, &c. was called up and committed.

The Committee appointed at the last session to enquire into the state of the Gaols in Middlesex county, made a Report, which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

Saturday, Jan. 13. The Secretary presented a Message from His Excellency, referring to the statement made by the Directors of the State's Prison, relative to the labor performed by the convicts for the use of the General Hospital. Also a Message, referring to certain resolutions of the Legislatures of Illinois and Tennessee.

A Committee was renewed to Report on the expediency of amending or repealing the law respecting *Impounding of Cattle.*

Messrs. Gardner, Putnam, and Tower were appointed a Committee on the subject of taxing Manufacturing Companies.

Monday and Tuesday, Jan. 12 and 13. The proceedings of these days were of a local and private nature, and nothing of general interest was *finally* disposed of.

FARMER WANTED.

WANTED a married man to carry on a Farm of about 40 acres, within about five miles of the city, and in an excellent neighborhood. This farm is of an easy cultivation, and will be principally appropriated to grass.—A person will receive good encouragement, and may make an arrangement for a number of years by applying to this Office.

Jan. 17.

FARMER'S ALMANAC, FOR 1824.

FOR sale at this Office, the Farmer's Almanac for 1824. Nov. 24.

PRICES OF COUNTRY PRODUCE, &c

[Revised and corrected every Friday.]

		FROM D. C.	TO D. C.
ASHES, pot, 1st sort,	ton.	145	150
pearl do.		135	137
BEANS, white,	bush	90	1 00
BEEF, mess, 200 lbs. new,	bbl.	8 25	8 50
cargo, No 1,		6 75	7
" No 2,		5 50	6
BUTTER, inspect. 1st qual. new	lb.	12	13
" 2d qual.		9	10
CHEESE, new milk		7	9
skimed milk,		3	4
FLAX		8	9
FLAX SEED	bush	83	90
FLOUR, Baltimore, Howard St.	bbl.	6 50	6 75
Genessee,		6 75	7
Rye, best		3 75	
GRAIN, Rye	bush	60	
Corn		52	63
Barley		67	70
Oats		40	
HOGS' LARD, 1st sort	lb.	8	9
HOPS, No 1, Inspection of 1823		35	40
LIME,	cask	1 00	1 17
OIL, Linseed, Phil. and Northern	gal.	63	72
PLAISTER PARIS	ton.	4 00	4 50
PORK, BoneMiddlings new,	bbl.	14 50	15 00
NAVY, mess,		12 50	
Cargo, No 1,		11 75	12
Cargo, No 2,	bush	11 00	11 25
SEEDS, Herd's Grass, 1822,	lb.	2 00	
Clover		7	8
WOOL, Merino, full blood, washed		58	70
do do unwashed		37	40
do 3-4 washed		45	50
do 1-2 do		37	40
Native do		31	33
Pulled, Lamb's, 1st sort		50	00
do Spinning, 1st sort		40	42
PROVISION MARKET.	lb.		
BEEF, best pieces		7	10
PORK, fresh		5	7
VEAL,		3	8
MUTTON and LAMB,		2	8
POULTRY,		5	8
BUTTER, keg & tub, family,		14	17
lump, best		16	18
EGGS,	doz.	16	20
MEAL, Rye,	bush	70	
Indian,		65	70
POTATOES,		30	37
CIDER, liquor, new	bbl.	2 25	2 50
HAY, according to quality,	ton.	18 00	20 00

INTEMPERANCE.

Most men, too passive, when the blood runs low,
Too weakly indolent to strive with pain,
And bravely, by resisting, conquer fate,
Try Circe's arts, and in the tempting bowl
Of poison'd nectar, sweet oblivion drink.
Struck by the powerful charm, the gloom dissolves
In empty air, Elysium opens round.
A pleasing phrenzy buoys the brighten'd soul,
And sanguine hopes dispel your fleeting care;
And what was difficult and what was dire,
Yields to your prowess and superior stars:
The happiest you of all that e'er was mad,
Or are or shall be, could this folly last;
But soon your heaven is gone; a heavier gloom
Shuts o'er your head: and, as the thundering stream,
Swoln o'er its banks with sudden mountain rain,
Sinks from its tumult to a silent brook;
So, when the frantic raptures in your breast
Subside, you languish into mortal man:
You sleep, on waking find yourself undone.
For prodigal of life, in one rash night
You lavish'd more than might support three days.
A heavy morning comes; your cares return
With ten fold rage. An anxious stomach well
May be endur'd; so may the throbbing heart:
But such a dim delirium, such a dream
Involves you; such a dastardly despair
Unmans your soul.———
Besides, it wounds you sore to recollect
What follies in your loose unguarded hour
Escaped. For one irrevocable word,
Perhaps that meant no harm you lose a friend:
Or in the rage of wine your hasty hand
Performs a deed to haunt you to your grave.
Add that your means, your health, your parts decay;
Your friends avoid you; brutishly transform'd
They hardly know you;———
Despis'd, unwept, you fall; who might have left
A name still to be utter'd with a sigh.

MISCELLANY.

From the Portsmouth Journal.

LOVEWELL'S FIGHT.

The authenticity of historical facts of ancient times rests often upon tradition only. It is believed that Dr. Belknap, in his History of New-Hampshire, was in one instance misled by the information he received. He has laid the scene of an action of a century ago, in the town of Wakefield, which it is apprehended actually occurred on the shore of Winnipisioga Lake, and probably near Alton Bay. I refer to the achievement of Capt. Lovewell, so renowned in the early wars of this country, as an Indian Partisan. In the winter of 1725 Capt. Lovewell, with a party of men, undertook an expedition into the part of N. Hampshire now constituting the county of Strafford, and succeeded in destroying a company of ten Indians who were directing their course to Dover. The historian of New-Hampshire has stated this occurrence to have been at the head of the western branch of Salmonfalls river, in the town of Wakefield. The pond there has always retained the name of Lovewell's pond. The statement which follows is from the journal of an intelligent and enterprising young man, who was afterwards extensively known and respected.—I mean the late John Varnum, Esq. of Dracut.

"John Varnum, when twenty one years of age, went with Capt. Lovewell after Indians in the winter of 1725, on snow shoes, and carried their provision on their backs and travelled towards Winnepesoke pond and came on the trail of Indians which they followed, till they came to the aforementioned pond. There not being any snow on the pond, they could not see their tracks. There appeared a large flock of ravens, which followed the Indians, lighting on the trees that were on the islands in said pond: which was considered by the Captain and others as ominous of their destroying said Indians. After following the ravens, sometime, they came in hearing of the Indians firing at beaver and other game;— they had a great hunt that day. Lovewell and his men halted supposing the Indians would eat heartily, and sleep sound. They therefore concluded to come upon them about the middle of the night.—They did not build any fire, but came so near as to see *their* fire. They tied the mouths of their dogs, and kept them close for fear of being discovered. On the 20th of February they came up and fired on them; and killed eight, and wounded one. One man and the dogs caught him. They were all killed, being nine men and a boy. The boy was armed with a lance on a pole; supposed to drive and torment prisoners. After scalping the Indians, they left them for the ravens.—The Indians were going to Cocheco,[now Dover,] to destroy a few settlers there.—Lovewell and his men marched to Dover, it being the next settlement, and from thence to Andover." P.

Wakefield, January, 1824.

Morbid Affection.—The possibility of contracting distemper from a dead subject is amply confirmed by the following melancholy circumstance. About a fortnight since, Mr. H. Penefather who had just commenced the practice of surgery, was engaged in dissecting the body of a female subject, whose death was produced by inflammation of the liver, attended with other symptoms that rendered the cure worthy of very strict examination. Dissection was submitted to by the friends of the deceased: and Mr. Penefather and another gentleman operated twice or three times with great professional advantage.

The body was interred, and Mr. Penefather thought nothing more of the circumstance until about a week after, when he perceived that his left hand began to swell, a little above the palm, or near the articulation of the wrist, attended with a slight twitching pain and numbness of the fingers. Those symptoms he attributed to various causes, and conceived that the swelling would abate by washing the part with a suitable lotion. This remedy he accordingly tried when retiring to bed; but to his great surprise and no small consternation, he found that the inflammation had extended itself to the arm, which on the following morning was exceedingly swelled. Under these circumstances he deemed it advisable to state the case to some of the more experienced of the faculty; and, after mature deliberation by three eminent practitioners, with reference to his late anatomical researches, (as before stated) they concluded that he must have imbibed through some medium, whether by a cut or otherwise, a portion of the poisonous matter with which the morbid subject was at that time infected. Mortification being seated in the arm, we regret to learn that he was compelled to submit to amputation, as the only means by which life could possibly be preserved. Mr. Penefather is a native of Ireland, and very respectably connected in that country.

[*London paper.*

Mankind Classed.—Mankind, may be divided into three classes.—Those who learn from the experience of others—They are happy men.—Those who learn from their own experience—They are wise men.—And, lastly, those who learn neither from their own nor from other people's experience—They are fools.

Idleness.—There is no character in society more despicable than the idler. He is not only an unhappy, but in a fair way to become a criminal being. Bishop Taylor observed to a lady, who neglected the education of her son, on the plea that he was to young to be confined to study, "Madam if you don't fill his head with something, believe me the devil will."

Life.—Life is *time* well employed. The man, therefore, who squanders away his time, commits a species of suicide; and he who robs me of my time takes away my existence, and is more my enemy than the person who unjustly takes away my money.

The proper Employment of Ridicule.—There are some vices which ought to inspire us with detestation, and others which are most successfully encountered with ridicule. Of this latter class are most which originate in an inordinate desire of appearing fashionable and genteel, such as coquetry and foppery. Convince coquettes and fops that the world laughs and despises them, and you will do much to reform them.

False Pleasure.—Some men, in pursuit of pleasure, destroy their senses, which are the only inlets to the enjoyments they are seeking. They roar bacchanalian songs till hoarse and deaf, smoke till blind, and drink till stupid.

"In wild excess the vulgar breast takes fire
Till buried in debauch the bliss expire."

A man should neither choose to be a hermit nor a buffoon; human nature is not so miserable as that we should be always melancholy, nor so happy that we should be always merry.

The triumph of woman lies not in the admiration of her lover, but in the respect of her husband, and it can only be gained by a constant cultivation of those qualities which she knows he most values.

The supercilious, however refined are rude.

Irish Humor.—An Irishman seeing an outside passenger of an English stage coach covered with dust, observed, that if he was a potatoe he might *grow without any further planting.*

TERMS OF THE FARMER.

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